

**Amendment and Response**

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Serial No.: 10/729,114

Confirmation No.: 3162

Filed: 5 December 2003

For: WOUND DRESSINGS AND METHODS

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**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:  
a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix;  
an optional plasticizing agent; and  
hydrophilic organic microparticles, which when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 10 microns or less;  
wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which when coated on a substrate displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.
2. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the composition comprises a plasticizing agent.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 4 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 1 micron or less.

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6. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 5 wherein the microparticles when in a nonhydrated form have an average particle size of 0.5 micron or less.
7. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises 1 to 225 apertures per square centimeter.
8. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the apertured liquid permeable substrate comprises apertures having an average opening size of 0.1 millimeter to 0.5 centimeter.
9. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise an amine-containing organic polymer.
10. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 9 wherein the amine-containing organic polymer microparticles comprise a quaternary ammonium salt of an organic polymer.
11. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 10 wherein the microparticles comprise a cationic homopolymer of the methyl chloride quaternary salt of 2-(dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate.
12. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles comprise a copolymer of sodium acrylate and acrylic acid.
13. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles are in the form of a dispersion.
14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition further comprises a bioactive agent.

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15. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 14 wherein the bioactive agent is an antimicrobial agent.
16. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the polymer composition further comprises one or more additional additives.
17. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a mixture of two or more polymers.
18. (Original) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the microparticles are present in an amount of 1 wt-% to 60 wt-%, based on the total weight of the polymer composition.
19. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:
- a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;
  - an optional plasticizing agent; and
  - hydrophilic microparticles comprising an amine-containing organic polymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less;
- wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which when coated on a substrate displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.
20. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an apertured liquid permeable substrate and an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition comprising:

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a hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprising a styrene-isoprene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-butadiene-styrene copolymer, or mixtures thereof;

an optional plasticizing agent; and

hydrophilic microparticles comprising a sodium polyacrylate copolymer, wherein when the microparticles are in a nonhydrated form they have an average particle size of 10 microns or less;

wherein the polymer matrix, optional plasticizing agent, and microparticles are selected and combined in amounts to form an absorbent, nonadherent polymer composition, which when coated on a substrate displays a 180° peel strength from stainless steel of less than 1 N/cm.

21. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 1 to the wound.

22. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 19 to the wound.

23. (Original) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 20 to the wound.

24. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 1 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises a polyisobutylene, polyethylene-propylene rubber, polyethylene-propylene diene-modified rubber, polyisoprene, styrene-isoprene-styrene, styrene-butadiene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-propylene-styrene, styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene, or combinations thereof.

25. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing of claim 24 wherein the hydrophobic organic polymer matrix comprises styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene.

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26. (Currently Amended) The wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 wherein the wound dressing is swollen ~~with a liquid~~.
27. (Previously Presented) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising applying the wound dressing of claim 26 to a wound.
28. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a wound, the method comprising:  
applying the wound dressing of any of claims 1, 19, or 20 to the wound; and  
swelling the wound dressing ~~with a liquid~~.